

## Prime Minister's Message for August 2007 - Big Bend MGs

I'm on working vacation this week in Rome, Georgia helping our daughter get set up in her "new" home built in 1940. It's a real charming house but she needs help with many small things that I know how to do and am glad to help her out to save her a few bucks. My labor is free, of course.

In driving to Rome and actually in Rome, I have noticed a number of MG s and am tempted to stop and ask what their situation is, whether for sale or just parked for now. A couple have FOR SALE on them, so there's no question about them, but one or two I have seen have been just sitting there for several months. One in particular looks to be in good condition and is just parked on the side of a neighborhood road. You can see where the street sweeper has gone around it and it hasn't moved in the past month. I am tempted to stop and ask about the car but I don't need to get involved right now with another MG. Lord knows I have enough on my plate at present to try and finish up.

So, I'm wondering if its just that my eyes are tuned to notice MGs on the side of the road or out of the thousands that pass by them each day, why doesn't someone else see these cars as jewels and snap up these classics when they are just sitting there? I still hear from guys who are buying MGs in running condition for under a thousand dollars, so money can't be the issue of why these cars have not moved. Every time I pass one on the road, I ask myself if I should go back and write down the phone number and just call the owner to ask how much and what can they tell me about their car. At least its inquiring about the car and you never know, it might be just waiting to be picked up for next to nothing. The parts alone are worth the purchase price when you get a bargain on one of these cars.

If you are planning on restoring one and haven't started yet because of dread, procrastination, money or just not sure of what you're getting into, then another parts car is the perfect reference object for you. No reference manual can replace actually looking at the assembled car in front of you and seeing how the parts go together as a unit and in relation to the other ones around them. So, I'm wondering if others in our club notice MGs on the side roads and stop to ask about them. Let me know.

We are having the pleasure of several new potential members for Big Bend MG s inquire about our club and I am inviting and encouraging them to attend our monthly meetings. Several have asked for advice on who can work on their car, or if certain parts will interchange on different MG s. I hope you will welcome our guests and encourage them to talk about their car. I remember how excited I was about my first MG and wanted to talk to other owners at every opportunity.

Our August monthly meeting will be on Thursday the 16th at the **Wharf Restaurant** on Thomasville Road, adjacent to the fly-over, at **6:30 PM**. We will order from the menu and have a semi private area for the meeting and dinner. Hope to see all of you there, and drive your MG!

Bill Thompson

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